

Hosea 5 - The Lord's Rebuke

12/11/2019

The Lord follow's up on his controversy in chapter 4 with a rebuke in chapter 5.

He calls the nation to hearken to his charge (v 1 & 8).

He accuses them of many sins: apostasy, spiritual whoredom, pride, persecution.

He upbraids both the wicked rulers and the foolish sheep (v 10-11).

He reminds them that he has knowledge of their 'secret' sin and that they have been warned that their sin will have painful consequences.

Finally, the Lord provides a list of sin's misery: they will *fall* (v 5), they'll be forsaken (v 6), their *portions shall be devoured* (v7) and they will experience God's wrath (v10, 12 & 14).

The themes in this chapter are woven throughout the verses and are revealed in Dr Butler's outline :

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|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| A. The Culprits in the sin, | v1 & 10 |
| B. The Conduct of their sin, | v 1-5, 7, 10-11, 13 |
| C. The Cognizance of their sin | v 3, 8, 9 |
| D. The Consequences of their sin | v 5-8, 10-12, 14-15 |

background notes :

v 1 *Mizpah* - east of Jordan: had a unauthorized worship center Jer 41:4-6
Mt. *Tabor* - west of " : a *high place* of false worship Jer 19:5

v 3 *Ephraim committest whoredom* - this is region where idolatry began in Israel
Judges 17:1,4-6 1 Kings 16:29-32

v 8 *Gibeah* - a *hill town* in the Judean mountains ~ 4 miles northeast of Jerusalem
belongs to tribe of *Benjamin*. cf 9:9 - refers to Judges 19
Ramah ('height') - a hill town 5 miles north west of Jerusalem
Bethaven - a hill town next to Ai, 10 miles due north of Jerusalem rb 4:15

references :

Matthew Henry's Commentary, Vol. 4 1992, Hendrickson Publ.
Analytical Bible Expositor, Vol. 9 John G. Butler, 2013, LBC Publ.

1 Kings 15 - Ramah : A Roadblock to the Truth

A. Baasha - his bold blunder : building Ramah

- v 1 *Jeroboam* (enlarger) *Nebat* (cultivator) *Abijam* (father of light)
- v 2 *Maachah* (depression) *Abishalom* (father of peace)
- v 5 *Uriah* (Lord is light) *Hittite* = descendants of *Heth* (terrible), Genesis 10:15
- v 6 *Rehoboam* (freer of the people) v 11 *Asa* (physician)
- v 13 *Kidron* (turbid) - a brook running between Jerusalem & Mt. Olives, empties into Dead Sea
- v 17 *Baasha* (boldness) a man of Issachar, conspired against Nadab & killed his family
Baasha built *Ramah* (the height) - a border town 5 miles north of Jerusalem

Ramah was built to prevent Israelites from getting to God's true Temple in Jerusalem.
 The historical effect of this work was described in **Jeremiah 31:15**.

spir: In the early 20th century 'bold' Christians turned from God's *sure word of prophecy* (av 1611) and began to seek other ways of "hearing" new 'revelations' from God.

They use the word **Rhema** to describe their 'new knowledge'.

They claimed this was a spiritual gift from God and called themselves *Charismatics*.

Rhema is the Greek word for *utterance* or *thing said*.

In Greek philosophy it was used by both Plato and Aristotle to refer to propositions or sentences.

Charismatics view *Rhema* as the voice of the Holy Spirit speaking to them in the present moment.

They believe that today the Holy Spirit is guiding Christians through inner feelings, impressions and experiences.

They say God is imparting fresh messages in worship services, prayer meetings, and counseling sessions. In this way they experience God's "direct leading".

Tragically, they maintain that this "Rhema" spoken word is superior to the written words found in the sacred scriptures. For believers today Rhema is a roadblock to God's truth.

google search : Rhema ministries, Rhema Bible Training College,
 Rhema Bible Church, Rhema Christian Center,

Rhema Bible School ("...since 1974 we have trained more than 60,000 worldwide for the harvest. The sun never sets on RHEMA graduates ministering around the world).

eye opening article posted : March 16, 2011 on the UC Ministries Blog

" *Why I Left the Word of Faith and Rhema* " by John Edwards

He was a "faith preacher" for 10 years and knows the movement from the inside.

He lists 31 facts and heresies of the movement.